

Serial No.: 10/025,983
Atty. Docket No.: P67385US0

REMARKS

By this Response, Applicants have canceled claims 20-30, amended claims 1-19 and added claims 31-33. Claims 1-19 and 31-33 are pending in the application. Claims 1 and 4 are independent.

As an initial matter, Applicants have corrected informalities noted in the specification, including the addition of headings. Applicants have also provided a replacement abstract on a separate sheet. Changes made to the abstract to correct informalities are as noted herein.

In the Requirement for Restriction mailed March 19, 2003, the Examiner stated that the captioned application includes two distinct inventions: Invention I, claims 1-19, drawn to a method for determining the concentration of an ion in a substance, classified in class 600, subclass 348; and Invention II, claims 20-26 and 28-30, drawn to a dialyser with hemofilter, classified in class 604, subclass 6.09.

Applicants hereby elect Invention I (claims 1-19) directed to the method for determining the concentration of an ion in a substance, without traverse. New claims 31-33 also read on the elected invention.

With this amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition

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for examination on the merits. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned attorney so that the present application can receive an early Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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Abstract

A method for determining the concentration of an ion, atom or molecule bound in a complex. A reliable determination of the concentration of the ion, atom or molecule to be determined is possible in accordance with the invention in that the complexing of the ion, atom or molecule is prevented at least during the determination of the concentration by the addition or withdrawal of a substance. Also contemplated is a dialyser having a haemo-dialyser and/or a haemo-filter and an extra-corporal blood circulation with which a device for the adding of citrate to the blood is connected upstream and a device for the adding of a substitution solution containing ions to the blood is connected downstream of the haemo-dialyser and/or of the haemo-filter. Ion concentration in the dialysate downstream of the haemo-dialyser and/or of the haemo-filter is detected with respect to the direction of flow of the dialysate.

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